

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2-23 and add new claims 24-31 as indicated in the following list of the pending claims.

PENDING CLAIMS

1. A stent, comprising:

a) an expandable tubular body having a first end, a second end, a plurality of cylindrical wall sections defining an open-walled structure, and at least one eyelet member having an opening configured to receive a securing member therein to secure a cover to the tubular body; and

b) a plurality of bar members connected to the tubular body, so that at least one bar member is connected to and extends between longitudinally adjacent wall sections.

2-23 (Cancelled)

24. (New) An expandable tubular stent body having a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections, comprising:

a) a first cylindrical wall section at a first end of the tubular body which has a first margin and a second margin and a circumferentially undulated structure with undulation extremities at the first and second margins of the first cylindrical wall section;

b) a second cylindrical wall section at a second end of the tubular body;

c) an intermediate cylindrical wall section which is disposed adjacent to the first cylindrical wall section, which has a first margin and a

second margin with the first margin adjacent to the second margin of the first cylindrical wall section and a circumferentially undulated structure with undulation extremities at the first and second margins of the intermediate cylindrical wall section; and

- d) at least one connecting bar member extending between an undulation extremity at the first margin of the first cylindrical wall section and an undulation extremity at a margin of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section.

25. The expandable tubular stent body of claim 24 wherein the undulated structure of the first cylindrical wall section and the undulated structure of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section are in phase.

26. The expandable tubular stent body of claim 25 wherein the connecting bar member extends between an undulation extremity at the first margin of the first cylindrical wall section and an undulation extremity at the first margin of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section

27. The expandable tubular stent body of claim 24 wherein the undulated structure of the first cylindrical wall section and the undulated structure of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section are out of phase.

28. The expandable tubular stent body of claim 27 wherein the connecting bar member extends between an undulation extremity at the first margin of the first cylindrical wall section and an undulation extremity at the second margin of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section.

29. The expandable tubular stent body of claim 24 wherein at least one connecting bar member is configured to secure a jacket thereto.

30. The expandable tubular stent body of claim 29 wherein the connecting bar member has a penetrating element to secure a jacket thereto.

31. The expandable tubular stent body of claim 29 wherein the connecting bar member has a eyelet to facilitate securing a jacket thereto by a suitable strand.